

ROBERT MCKENZIE

These pulmonary function tests confirm the reduction in lung volume and in my opinion these changes are due to restriction in the lung based on the pulmonary changes due to asbestos damage. Although he has a mild degree of airways obstruction, on the balance of probabilities this only contributes about 10% to his overall respiratory disability.

Finally, as a past cigarette smoker with evidence of asbestos damage to his lungs he has a significant risk of developing lung cancer when compared with a similar cigarette smoker never exposed to asbestos, and I assess this at 10%. Dealing with mesothelioma and bearing in mind the incidence of mesothelioma in the West of Scotland the risk is certainly greater than 1%. Dealing with prognosis for life expectancy the present changes by themselves will give rise to an increased morbidity with increasing breathlessness and loss of mobility, particularly with respiratory infections during winter months, but present evidence does not suggest that it will significantly shorten life expectation. The situation changes dramatically with the development of either form of malignancy mentioned, survival then being a matter of months. With increasing disability Mr McKenzie could require day nursing support to assist with, eg bathing.

Yours faithfully

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